



# District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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## MINUTES OF FULL COMMISSION MEETING

October 17, 2017

One Judiciary Square, Suite 430S, Washington, DC 20001

### **Voting Members in Attendance:**

Frederick Weisberg

David Rosenthal

Milton Lee

Danya Dyson

Renata K. Cooper

Katerina Semyonova

William “Billy” Martin (via phone)

### **Non-Voting Members in Attendance:**

Chanell Autrey

Michael Anzallo

Stephen J. Husk

### **Staff in Attendance:**

Barbara Tombs-Souvey

Mia Hebb

Mehmet Ergun

Linden Fry

Taylor Tarnalicki

Miatta Sesay

- I. Chairman Weisberg called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
- II. ***Introduction of New Commission Member:*** Chairman Weisberg welcomed the Commission’s newest member, Katerina Semyonova to the Commission. Ms. Semyonova was recently appointed as the PDS designee to serve on the Commission.
- III. The minutes from September 19, 2017, were discussed and approved.
- IV. Review of the Draft Sentencing Guideline Survey– Informational Item, Taylor Tarnalicki and Barbara Tombs-Souvey.

***Review of Draft Sentencing Guideline Survey:*** Ms. Tombs-Souvey gave a brief overview of the Sentencing Guidelines Survey draft that was recently distributed to the Commission members for review and comment. Ms. Tomb-Souvey informed Commission members that a survey platform will be chosen within the next week. Ms. Tombs-Souvey asked Commission members if they had any concerns or changes they would like to discuss regarding the draft survey.

Ms. Tombs-Souvey also informed Commission members that the survey target audiences are those most familiar with the Sentencing Guidelines. These audiences include: Judges, Prosecutors, Defense Attorneys, and CSOSA officers. There were concerns and questions from Commission members about the clarity of specific survey questions and the proposed timeline for completion of the survey. Commission members then recommended modifications to several survey questions. Ms. Tombs-Souvey stated that the recommended

draft changes will be incorporated and presented for another review by the Commission before the survey is finalized and distributed.

- V. Discussion of Criminal History Retreat – Participatory, Chairman Weisberg and Barbara Tombs-Souvey.

***Criminal History Retreat:*** Chairman Weisberg gave a brief overview on the purpose of the Criminal History Retreat. Chairman Weisberg asked Commission members if they were able to read and provide feedback on Richard Frase’s Criminal History report that was previously distributed. There were a few topics of interest suggested by Commission members that should be discussed at the Criminal History Retreat. The Chairman encouraged Commission members to prepare a list of questions or topics prior to the retreat and forward them to Ms. Tombs-Souvey. Chairman Weisberg asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the logistics or format of retreat on November 14, 2017.

- VI. Amended the Agenda – Chairman Weisberg

***Amend the Agenda:*** Chairman Weisberg recommended that the Commission amend the agenda to discuss a developing personnel issue in closed session.

***Commission Action #1:*** The Commission voted unanimously to amend the agenda to add an additional agenda item: the discussion of a Commission personnel issue in closed session.

- VII. Discussion of a Commission Personnel Issue, Closed Session – Chairman Weisberg

Chairman Weisberg stated that the Commission was going into closed session to discuss a personnel issue. He specified that the session will be closed under D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(10) to discuss “the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, performance evaluation, compensation, discipline, demotion, removal, or resignation of government appointees, employees, or officials.”

***Vote to Close the Session:*** The Commission voted unanimously to close the session under D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(10).

***Closed Session:*** The Commission began the closed session at 5:35 p.m. The public and staff were asked to leave the meeting.

The Commission came out of closed session at 5:50 p.m.

- VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

November 14, 2017

Gallaudet University, Kellogg Conference Center  
800 Florida Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002